

November 19, 2019

Mr. Jim Pokrandt, Chairman
Colorado River Basin Roundtable
Colorado River Water Conservation District
201 Centennial Street
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602

Re: Crystal River Basin Augmentation Planning Grant Request

Dear Jim,

The Gunnison Basin Roundtable would like to offer you this letter in support of the effort to obtain grant funding for water planning in the Crystal River Basin. Our understanding is that the plan would provide for investigations of Augmentation Demands, Exchange Potential, Small Reservoir Storage and Recharge Pit Feasibility in the Crystal River Basin. We support the proposal to develop a study of options to address shortages in the basin, and would like to also express our support for using a robust collaborative approach during the planning process.

The headwaters and upper reaches of the Crystal River are located in Gunnison County above the Town of Marble. Although the majority of Gunnison County is in the geographic and hydrologic boundaries of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable, this part of Gunnison County is located in the watershed tributary to the mainstem of the Colorado River. Gunnison County is represented on the Gunnison Roundtable and has an interest in the project. (Notably Gunnison County does not have a seat on the Colorado River Roundtable as I understand it).

The Gunnison Roundtable unanimously approved sending this letter of support on November 18th. The Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners and the Town of Marble Trustees have begun discussions to identify opportunities to have a better connection to water planning for the upper reaches of the Crystal River Basin. The Gunnison Basin Roundtable applauds these efforts and simultaneously supports the grant application from Colorado River Water Conservation District and the West Divide Water Conservancy District to provide planning opportunities for this area. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Kathleen

Kathleen Curry, Chair
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